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BRITISH MUSEUM NATURAL HISTORY

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

YORKSHIRE

PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

FOR THE YEAR

1955

PRESENTED TO THE ANNUAL MEETING,

28th MAY, 1956

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE COUNCIL.

1956.

THE interests of THE YORKSHIRE MUSEUM are primarily devoted to Natural History and Archaeology. Its fine collections cater not only for the general public, but also for specialist students in these two branches of cultural activity.

The Keeper would be interested to hear at all times of collections, large or small, which other institutions or private persons may have for disposal, and which could be used to extend the educational facilities already afforded the archaeologist, systematist and biologist at THE YORKSHIRE MUSEUM.

The Yorkshire Philosophical Society.

(Founded 1822)

Patron:

The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Scarbrough, K.G.

Trustees:

The Midland Bank Executor and Trustee Company Limited

Officers for the Year 1956:

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Sir Herbert Read, D.S.O., M.C., M.A., D.Litt.

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Miss C. M. Rob
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George Howard
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H. Wetherell

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

OF THE

YORKSHIRE PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

FOR 1955.

Some progress can be reported during 1955. Work has been continued on the Prehistoric Room, which it is hoped will be ready for opening at the Annual General Meeting. In addition, our Anglo-Saxon and Danish finds have been rearranged and relabelled. Most of the Trentholme Drive pottery has now been restored, and conservation and restoration of other parts of the archaeological collections have continued. The natural history collections, however, still lack a curator and a technical assistant, and until they can be provided all that can be done is to keep the cases charged with chemicals and hope that mites, moths, mould, mildew, fungus and rot have miraculously ceased to exist.

During the year a temporary exhibition of the finds from Trentholme Drive has been arranged in the Central Hall and has been visited by a large number.

Acquisitions include a fine fourteenth century scabbard and a Viking pin from Market Street presented by Dr. S. V. Hart; a bronze Roman scent phial from Gillamoor presented by Miss J. Robertson; two bronze palstaves found at Ripon, from the Winchester Museum; two bronze spearheads from Malhamdale presented by Mrs. V. A. Preston, and a fine collection of Mediaeval pottery from Huttons Ambo presented by the Ministry of Works. The coin collection has been enriched by a seventeenth century York token presented by Master Barry Newcombe, and a very rare silver York penny of Athelstan purchased at the Lockett sale and formerly in the Martin and Rashleigh collections.

Finds from St. Mary's Abbey include three Roman brooches and a fine Dark Ages bronze buckle.

The Society's portrait by William Etty of James Atkinson was loaned during the year to the Arts Council for their exhibition of William Etty's works in London.

Distinguished visitors to the collections have included the late Dr. Sherwood Taylor, Director of the Science Museum, London; Dr. Wallis, President of the Museums Association; Professor Lebus, Denkmal Konservator of Austria; the Prince of Seyn-Wittgenstein, Denkmal Konservator of Hesse; Mr. B. Proudfoot, of the Queen's University, Belfast; Professor Le Patourel, of Leeds University; Dr. Donald Towner, the Secretary of the English Ceramic Circle; Mr. G. C. Dunning; Mr. Hamilton and Mr. Hurst, of the Inspectorate of Ancient Monuments, Ministry of Works; and Mr. Aubrey Topping, the York Herald.

During the year there have been 153 school parties and the Keeper has given lectures at Acomb, Leeds, Darlington, Sheffield and at the Institute of Archaeology, London University.

The following lectures have been given during the year:—

10th February. "Bird Life at Home and Abroad" (film).
G. R. Edwards.
(In conjunction with the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.)

3rd March	"Excavations in Blossom Street, York, 1953-54." L. P. Wenham, M.A., M.Litt., M.Ed.
27th October.	"Extinct Dragons in Yorkshire." David E. Owen, Ph.D., F.G.S., F.M.A., Director, Leeds City Museum.
18th November	"Nature's Dominion" (colour film). Mervyn Cowie, Director of the Royal National Parks of Kenya. (In conjunction with the Fauna Preservation Society.)

The Society has lost by death two valued members, Lieut.-Col. C. H. Grey and Mr. K. E. T. Wilkinson. Col. Grey had been for some years a member of the Council and the Chairman of the Garden Committee. His memorial will be the gardens which he founded at Harlow Carr, Harrogate, and which the Northern Horticultural Society, of which he was President, sponsored. He was always ready to advise and help on the problems of the Museum Gardens, and his long horticultural experience and expert knowledge will be greatly missed.

Mr. K. E. T. Wilkinson had served for many years on the Council until he retired a few years ago to make room for the younger generation. His services to all the causes of education in this City were outstanding. As Chairman of the City Education Committee and of the Settlement Adult Education Centre, no one was more fitted to understand the relations between Museums and Education.

Another long-standing member of the Society, Lieut.-Col. W. T. C. Huffam, has also died. Under his Will the Society will receive a number of seats for the Gardens in memory of his mother, and the ladies at the Wandesford Hospital will be entitled to use the Gardens.

The reversion to the old scale of charges of entry to the grounds has increased the Society's income by between £500 and £600, and the estimated increase of £600 would doubtless have been reached but for the Railway strike in June.

But rising prices have again told against the Society. The staff wages have been raised to a level reasonably compatible with those elsewhere. The Members should perhaps realise that the Keeper has had no increase during the last few years, and in fact his salary is 25% below the pre-war scale paid by the Society, though comparable salaries have risen generally by 150%.

This increase of wages has been met by reduction in staff. Edward Hall, who has been with the Society since 1910, first as a gardener and latterly as an attendant, has retired on a pension. The Council wish him many years of pleasant retirement. Ian Stead, who was in the Museum for a few months, has gone to Cambridge University, and John Pallister, who has been in the Museum for the last two years, has been called up for National Service.

This leaves a staff of one lodge-keeper, two clerks, two cleaners and a handyman and a temporary attendant in the Hospitium during the summer.

The condition of the Museum fabric is causing grave concern to the Council, and the Society will certainly be faced with very heavy expenditure during the coming year in repairs to the roof and stonework of the building.

In the early part of the year our Constitution was revised to maintain the status of the Society as a Charity, a privilege which the Society has held since 1844. But though our Constitution has passed the scrutiny of the Charity

Commission, the practice of the Society has failed to satisfy the Rating Authorities and the premises have been assessed at £710. This will probably mean an additional annual charge of about £585.

It is our unpleasant duty to warn members that the Society is faced with most serious financial difficulties in the not far distant future.

MEMBERSHIP

There were 42 new members for the year 1955, and deaths and resignations numbered 48. There has been therefore a net decrease of 6, and the membership on 31st December, 1955, was:

Honorary Members	14
Ordinary Members	383
Lady Subscribers	2
Associates	1
Ticket Holders	59
	459

METEOROLOGY.—Statistics of Station: Longitude 1° 5′ W.; Latitude 53° 57′ N.; height above mean sea level, 56 feet.

Rainfall. Rain or snow fell to the amount of 19.38 inches as against 30.47 inches for the year 1954, a decrease of 11.09 inches and 5.25 inches below the average of 24.63 inches for the preceding 50 years. The wettest months were December, 2.69 inches, and June, 2.37 inches. The driest months were August, 0.59 inches, and July, 1.04 inches. The heaviest fall of the year occurred on 19th June when 0.76 of an inch was recorded.

Temperature. Temperature ranged from 83°F. on 14th, 16th and 23rd July to 15°F. on 20th February; the range of temperature for 1955 being 68°F. against 60°F. for 1954. The mean temperature for the year (mean of max. and min.) was 49.2°F. against 48.8°F. for 1954. August, 64.8°F., and July, 64.4°F., gave the highest means, and February and January were the lowest with 34.3°F. and 36.7°F. respectively.

Barometer. A mean pressure of 1015.1 millibars (29.98 inches) (1000 millibars = 29.53 inches of mercury at M.S.L. (Corrected for diurnal variations)) has been recorded as against 1011.8 millibars (29.88 inches) for 1954. April gave the highest mean with 1021.8 millibars (30.17 inches) and February the lowest with 1005.5 millibars (29.69 inches). The highest reading of the barometer of 1038.7 millibars (30.67 inches) was taken on 16th and 19th November, and the lowest 978.0 millibars (28.88 inches) on 15th December. The extreme range was therefore 60.7 millibars (1.79 inches) as compared with 76.4 millibars (2.25 inches) in 1954. All readings corrected to M.S.L.

Winds. Observations of winds at 9 a.m., G.M.T., show that during 1955 "strong" winds (force 4-8 Beaufort Scale) were recorded on 62 days against 87 days in 1954. The winds observed were N.W. 83; W. 55; S. 53; S.W. 49; N.E. 39; S.E. 37; N. 33; E. 16.

Thunder, Snow and Hail. Thunder was heard on 8 days against 13 days in 1954; snow or sleet fell on 31 days against 14 days, and hail was recorded on 5 days against 1 day the previous year.

Sunshine. Sunshine, recorded at Bootham School, amounted to 1610.7 hours as against 1141.0 hours in 1954, an increase of 469.7 hours and according to available records was the sunniest year since 1884.

LIABILITIES.

31st Dec., 1954. £ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
	Capital Account.		
	Balance at 1st January, 1955	42921 0 1	
	Add:—Col. W. T. C. Huffam Legacy ...	100 0 0	
42921 0 1			43021 0 1
	Col. W. T. C. Huffam—		
—	Bequest for Garden Seats		200 0 0
62 12 6	**Subscriptions paid in advance ... ...**		58 7 6
202 18 11	**Sundry Creditors ... ...**		162 8 7
	Specimen Fund.		
18 8 9	Balance at 1st January, 1955		18 8 9
	Abbey Excavation Fund		
2 2 9	Balance at 1st January, 1955	2 3	
2 0 6	*Less*:—Expenditure during the year ...	2 3	
2 3			—
	Research Fund:		
40 0 0	Balance at 1st January, 1955	70 15 8	
25 0 0	*Add*:—Amount set aside	25 0 0	
5 15 8	*Donations to the Fund*	—	
70 15 8			95 15 8
318 0 1	**Midland Bank Limited Overdraft.**		1644 6 2
	Pilgrim Trust: GRANT.		
877 9 0	Balance at 1st January, 1955	452 13 8	
19 17 2	*Add*:—Interest on York County Savings Bank deposits	12 13 4	
897 6 2		465 7 0	
444 12 6	*Less*:—*Expenditure during the year*	—	
452 13 8			465 7 0
£44046 11 11	Carried forward		£45665 13 9

BALANCE SHEET, AT 31st DECEMBER, 1955.

ASSETS.

31st Dec., 1954. £ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
		Freehold Property and Land. (Not valued for the purpose of this Balance Sheet)		
		Museum Gardens and Museums.		
		32 and 34 Bootham (Tempest Anderson Bequest).		
		Manor Cottage.		
		St. Mary's Lodge.		
		Baths Cottage, Marygate.		
		10 Bootham.		
		35 St. Olave's Road.		
		Investments		
		TEMPEST ANDERSON BEQUEST (At Cost).		
11183 8 9		£11,452 10s. 8d. 3½% War Stock	11183 8 9	
2500 0 0		£2,500 York Corporation 2½% Loan ...	2500 0 0	
7967 11 0		£12,876 13s. 8d. 3% Treasury Stock ...	7967 11 0	
1509 8 10		£1,649 6s. 9d. 3½% Conversion Stock ...	1509 8 10	
8000 0 0		£8,000 Mortgage, Ings Property Company Ltd. 4%	8000 0 0	
617 13 5		£621 7s. 2d. British Electricity 3% Guaranteed Stock 1968/73	617 13 5	
		At Conversion Value on 1st January, 1948.		
900 0 0		£900 Rotherham Corporation Mortgage at 3%	900 0 0	
7377 5 0		£7,377 5s. 0d. British Transport 3% Guaranteed Stock 1978/88	7377 5 0	
		RAWDON BEQUEST (At Cost).		
856 8 10		£935 17s. 10d. 3½% Conversion Stock ...	856 8 10	
		ST. QUINTIN BEQUEST (At Cost).		
250 0 0		£247 11s. 2d. 3½% Conversion Stock ...	250 0 0	
		WM. DOVE BEQUEST (At Cost).		
500 0 0		£500 York Corporation 4% Mortgage ...	500 0 0	
	41661 15 10			41661 15 10
		Note—Market value at 31st December, 1955, was £37,388 17s. 8d.		
71 9 6		**Sundry Debtors**		234 4 10
		Cash at Bank		
	294 3 2	York County Savings Bank	102 4 7	
	452 13 8	York County Savings Bank—Pilgrim Trust	465 7 0	
746 16 10				567 11 7
£42480 2 2		Carried forward		£42463 12 3

LIABILITIES.

31st Dec., 1954. £ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
44046 11 11		Brought forward		45665 13 9
44046 11 11				45665 13 9

FUNDS FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES.

WM. REED BEQUEST.

	655 15 6	Balance at 1st January, 1955	657 17 2	
	2 1 8	*Less*:—Excess of Expenditure over Income for (*Add*) the year ended 31st December, 1955 ...	19 4	
657 17 2				656 17 10

H. J. WILKINSON MEMORIAL FUND.

	240 3 10	Balance at 1st January, 1955	245 12 7	
	5 8 9	*Add*:—Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year ended 31st December, 1955 ...	5 19 8	
245 12 7				251 12 3
£44950 1 8				£46574 3 10

BALANCE SHEET, AT 31st DECEMBER, 1955—continued.

ASSETS.

31st Dec. 1954. £ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
42480 2 2		Brought forward		42463 12 3
199 10 3		**Payments in Advance**		252 17 10
		Stock of Museum Publications No. 1 (At Cost)		
	238 6 6	Balance at 1st January, 1955	188 6 6	
		Less:—Sales to 31st December, £ s. d.		
	6 6 0	1955 ... ... 2 9 6		
	43 14 0	Amount written off ... 47 10 6		
	50 0 0		50 0 0	
188 6 6				138 6 6
150 0 0		**Stock of Coke on Hand at 31st December, 1955** (Estimated)		200 0 0
		Carnegie Trust Fund		
	121 4 1	*Balance of Expenditure at 1st January, 1954*	—	
	253 15 11	*Expenditure during the year*	—	
	375 0 0		—	
	375 0 0	*Less*:—*Balance of Trust Grant (half)*	—	
—			—	—
		Income and Expenditure Account.		
	566 12 1	Balance at 1st January, 1955	1028 13 0	
	881 12 10	*Add*—Excess of Expenditure over Income for the year	1323 16 11	
	1448 4 11			2352 9 11
	419 11 11	*Less*:—*Income Tax recovered on Additional Amount received from Tempest Anderson Bequest in 1952*	—	
1028 13 0				—
		STATUE APPEAL		
—		Amount paid in excess of receipts		258 7 3
44046 11 11				45665 13 9

FUNDS FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES.

WM. REED BEQUEST

	650 0 0	£579 12s. 5d. 4% Consolidated Stock (at cost)	650 0 0	
		Note:—Market Value at 31st December, 1955 was £485 8s. 7d.		
	7 17 2	Cash at Midland Bank, Ltd.	6 17 10	
657 17 2				656 17 10

H. J. WILKINSON MEMORIAL FUND.

	185 0 0	£164 8s. 6d. 4% Consolidated Stock (at cost)	185 0 0	
		Note:—Market Value at 31st December, 1955, was £137 14s. 0d.		
	60 12 7	Cash at Midland Bank, Ltd.	66 12 3	
245 12 7				251 12 3
£44950 1 8				£46574 3 10

Dr. THE YORKSHIRE PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY. INCOME

31st Dec., 1954.

EXPENDITURE.

£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d	£ s. d.
		To Salaries and Wages:		
	2688 4 4	Museums	2970 0 6	
	1102 17 11	Lodge and Gardens	1143 1 8	
	136 2 6	National Insurance	164 16 2	
	151 18 3	Superannuation (Employers' Contribution)	160 12 4	
	12 13 0	*Pension*	—	
4091 16 0				4438 10 8
		To Maintenance of Properties and Land:		
111 6 10		Rent and Rates		116 4 1
			£ s. d.	
	581 3 10	Heating, Lighting and Water	625 16 3	
		Less:—Stock of Coke on hand		
	150 0 0	at 31st December, 1955	200 0 0	
431 3 10				425 16 3
350 19 5		**To Estate Repairs**		251 2 3
		To General Expenses:		
	136 12 10	Museums	152 14 4	
	297 18 8	Gardens	314 6 10	
	8 18 4	Bowling Green	2 3 9	
	41 1 6	Museum Furniture and Fittings Repairs ...	34 1 2	
484 11 4				503 6 1
		To Miscellaneous Expenses:		
	146 3 0	Books, Printing and Stationery	137 16 3	
	90 8 5	Insurance	70 2 11	
	97 14 11	Telephone and Postages	73 11 8	
	—	Bad Debts written off	12 14 0	
	2 1 9	Bank Charges (Net)	64 3 1	
336 8 1				358 7 11
70 16 3		**To Lecture Fees and Expenses**		79 1 0
		To Additions:		
	79 16 6	Library	48 1 0	
	71 6 6	Museum	44 0 0	
151 3 0				92 1 0
		To Museum Publications No. 1 Account:		
43 14 0		Proportion of Balance now written off ...		47 10 6
25 0 0		**To Amount set aside to Research Fund**		25 0 0
£6096 18 9				£6336 19 9
1408 8 10		**To Balance** brought down		1069 13 0
		To Extraordinary Expenditure:		
—		Motor Mower		254 3 11
£1408 8 10				£1323 16 11

AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT for the Year ended 31st December, 1955. Cr.

31st Dec., 1954. £ s. d.	£ s. d.	INCOME.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
		By Subscriptions		
		(Including Arrears now received)		
	770 9 0	Members	719 1 0	
	6 0 0	Country Members	9 0 0	
	3 0 0	Lady Subscribers	3 0 0	
	1 0 0	Associates	1 0 0	
	1 0 0	Student Members	10 0	
	49 15 0	Ticket Holders (*less* Refunds)	56 15 0	
	107 5 0	Keys of Gates	104 0 0	
	176 2 2	Income Tax Refunds under Deeds of Covenant, 1954/55	165 10 10	
1114 11 2				1058 16 10
		NOTE.—Subscriptions in arrear for 1955 amount to £40 15s. 0d., but are not included in these accounts.		
		By Bowling Green:		
	20 5 0	Members' Subscriptions	23 5 0	
	11 0	Locker Rents, Green Fees, etc.	14 0	
20 16 0				23 19 0
		By Donations:		
	15 0 0	York Corporation—Meteorological Grant	15 0 0	
	10 6	Sundries	10 6	
15 10 6				15 10 6
		By Rents:		
	65 0 0	St. Mary's Lodge	65 0 0	
	40 0 0	Manor Cottage	40 0 0	
	12 13 0	Baths Cottage, Marygate	28 12 0	
	40 0 0	35, St. Olave's Road	40 0 0	
	30 0 0	Shop, No. 10 Bootham	30 0 0	
	59 7 6	32 & 34, Bootham (Tempest Anderson Bequest)	35 0 0	
	5 0 0	York Diocesan Training College—Boat Yard	5 0 0	
	15 0 0	York Waterworks Co.—Shed	15 0 0	
	4 0	Wayleaves and Sundries	4 0	
267 4 6				258 16 0
231 9 0		**By Letting of Lecture Hall and Rooms**		214 3 0
1432 11 7		**By Gate Money**		2053 19 2
		By Dividends		
	1310 0 10	Tempest Anderson Bequest	1315 3 3	
	32 15 0	Rawdon Bequest	32 15 0	
	8 13 2	St. Quintin Bequest	8 13 2	
	7 14 11	William Dove Bequest	20 5 0	
	11 0 0	Arthur Hurst's Annuity	20 5 0	
	193 5 6	Income Tax recovered (1954/55)	184 5 6	
1563 9 5				1581 6 11
42 17 9		**By Publications**		60 15 4
1408 8 10		**By Balance** being **Excess** of **Ordinary Expenditure** over **Ordinary Income** for the year carried down		1069 13 0
£6096 18 9				£6336 19 9
526 16 0		*By Extraordinary Income* *York Festival*		—
881 12 10		**By Balance** being **Excess** of **Expenditure** over **Income** for the year carried to the **Balance Sheet**		1323 16 11
£1408 8 10				£1323 16 11

FUNDS FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS For the Year Ended 31st December, 1955.

Dr. | Cr.

Wm. REED BEQUEST.

31st Dec., 1954. £ s. d.	EXPENDITURE.	£ s. d.	31st Dec., 1954. £ s. d.	INCOME.	£ s. d.
21 2 0	To New Books and Binding	22 1 0		By Interest on £579 12s. 5d. 4% Consolidated Stock (Gross)	23 3 8
—	To Subscriptions	2 2 0	23 3 8	By Balance being Excess of Expenditure over Income carried to the Balance Sheet	19 4
2 1 8	*To Balance being Excess of Income over Expenditure carried to the Balance Sheet*	—	—		
£23 3 8		£24 3 0	£23 3 8		£24 3 0

H. J. WILKINSON MEMORIAL FUND

£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d
—	To New Books	11 10		By Interest on £164 8s. 6d. 4% Consolidated Stock (Gross)	6 11 6
1 2 9	*To Herbarium Expenses*	—	6 11 6		
5 8 9	To Balance being Excess of Income over Expenditure carried to Balance Sheet	5 19 8			
£6 11 6		£6 11 6	£6 11 6		£6 11 6

REPORT OF THE AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE YORKSHIRE PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

We have examined the above Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Accounts with the Books and Vouchers of the Society, and certify the same to be in accordance therewith. We have verified the Cash Balances and the Investments.

8, Coppergate, York.
22nd March, 1956.

CREER, ETTY, RANK & Co.
Chartered Accountants.

FORM

OF A

BEQUEST TO THE SOCIETY.

Every person desirous of bequeathing to the Society any sum of Money, Specimens, Books, Instruments, or other Property, is requested to make use of the following form :—

I give and bequeath to the Trustees, for the time being, of the Society established at York, called "**The Yorkshire Philosophical Society,**" *for the use of the said Society, the sum of to be paid out of such part of my personal estate as I may legally charge therewith.* [Or here enumerate the effects or property intended to be bequeathed.] *And I direct that the receipt of the Treasurer of the said Society, for the time being, shall be an effectual discharge to my Executors for the said legacy*

BRITISH MUSEUM
NATURAL HISTORY
8 AUG 1956

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